

The Home

Conducted by MARY FORD

A CHAT WITH MY READERS

In reading a letter from one of my correspondents it was brought home to me in a clear and forceful manner, that while it is very nice to write heroic platitudes, it is much more essential that we should face the actual situation as it exists today, in regard to motherhood, diet, and the possible betterment of the home, in a practical way. We must also be determined to improve conditions in the home. There is every opportunity in the new towns to improve the conditions, and to see that we do not perpetuate the errors of other towns and villages, in town planning, in the school buildings, in the civic institutions.

Mothers of the West, rouse yourselves and join hands in this page and lay your views on the table (Home Page) for discussion, and, who knows, but in these earnest talks with each other, we may help the men to form cleaner civic institutions, and give the country town planning committee a start in life. Above all let the men know why so many hearts are aching and see if it is not just want of thought that has been so often the cause of the evil. If the men do not know or do not understand the feeling of the woman on any subject, it would be hard to expect them to clear away the errors which too frequently have been the cause of all worry and anxiety. Without your hearty co-operation, dear readers, it will be impossible to help better conditions; with your co-operation all things are possible. The interests of the women and children lie very close to the heart of your friend,

MARY FORD.

ANSWER TO MOTHER

Dear Friend:—In answer to your letter on "Home and Eugenics" it is my earnest desire to see the subject of hygiene taken up in the Grain Growers' associations throughout the West. You say that there is a prejudice against this subject. There, I think, you make a little mistake. There is a very great prejudice on the subject of the results of impure living and its disastrous consequences in the home, but where the stand is taken for the better training of the young people for parenthood, I have not found any objection. Unfortunately so many people in taking up this subject discuss the horrors of the various acts of the people. I am practically certain that if the matter is placed clearly and sweetly before our men that the time has now arrived when the same intimate care must be taken in the fitting of the boys and girls for their duties in life, no objection will be raised. Books and papers will be supplied on this subject, and wherever they have been placed before the people, I find a sweet sympathy and perfect willingness to help me to spread the gospel of true purity in all relations of life. I find that the men are just as anxious as our women on the subject of the betterment of the national child and I think that if women like yourself take these matters up in the same spirit in which you have written this letter, you will, I feel sure prove a power for helpfulness in spreading the gospel of eugenics. It is not only a question for the private individual, but, it has now become a national question. In a young and growing nation like we are, we must give to the world the best and purest ideas. This only can be done by teaching our boys and girls their responsibility in the chief aim for which they were made. We have both to go back, and again forward; the mistake of the present day is that God is not a part of every moment of our lives, that our lives are not dedicated to the honor of God, and that we do not search for the hidden truth as you say in the Bible and apply it; we are merely placed here as the vessels and the guardians of the children, and just as we protect them from every worldly danger, so must we protect them from every spiritual pitfall, but above all, we must keep their faith in God as the Father in every work of life.

For 25 or 50 cents I will send you quite a number of little pamphlets and papers on this subject. Most of these cost 5 cents, so that you can pretty well choose the number you wish to receive.

MARY FORD.

SEEKING THE TRUTH

Dear Mary Ford:—Received your pamphlet with much pleasure, and I read the subject "Motherhood" and it was well appreciated. We are saving the other two for a future meeting. I would like five copies of "How to teach life's truths to the children." I am enclosing 25 cents to pay for the same, as some of the ladies ordered them.

W. J. M.

NEITHER HAD IT

A sage and a humorist, neither of whom had a very large proportion of the world's riches, were idly speculating upon the superabundance of wealth possessed by some of Wall Street's most prominent members. "Now, there's Rockefeller," said the sage; "he's got piles of money, but he's welcome to it, as far as I'm concerned. It's all tainted."

"More than that," observed the humorist. "It's twice tainted."

"How so?" queried the other.

"Well," twinkled the funny one, "it ain't yours and 'tain't mine."—Bellman.

THE LOVING HEART

The loving heart is the strong heart. The generous hand is the hand to cling to when the path is difficult. There is room for the exercises of charity everywhere—in business, in society, and in the church; but the first and chiefest need for it is at home, where it is the salt which keeps all things sweet, the aroma which makes every hour charming, and the divine light which shines.

Woman has power to uplift man; but she must first establish herself in the consciousness of the Christ purity, or, instead of inspiring in him all that is pure and spiritual, she will awaken the sense consciousness to greater activity.

The best way to help your friend is to treat yourself and hold daily in mind a high idea of pure womanhood. His higher self will respond to your higher self, if you enter into the consciousness of that self and abide there.

I WISH MY WIFE COULD VOTE

Just a few days before the last election a young friend of mine—a blooming young editor, by the way—said: "Mr. Loving, are you going to vote for woman suffrage?" "Yes," I replied; "are you?" He fired a yellow streak of tobacco juice across the room, hitting a mark fifteen feet away, and said emphatically, "No!" I said, "Why?" He replied, "Because she is not equal to it." "Look here, young fellow," I hastened to remark, "do you mean to say that is the opinion you have of your mother and your best girl?" He laughed. I went away, re-



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fleeing upon the eternal conceitedness of the brute man.

Yes, I wish my wife could vote. I cannot understand why she is not as much entitled to the ballot as I am. She has almost as much sense as I have (!) and I verily believe that with proper safeguards and restrictions she might be trusted with the right of suffrage. She has to pay taxes. If she violated the laws that she had no part in making she would have to suffer the penalty. Of course she might not vote so intelligently as some tobacco-chewing and beer-drinking politicians, but she would do as well at least as the average saloon bum, who invariably exercises his citizenship on election day. My wife has convictions and a strong sense of responsibility. She would make voting a matter of conscience. She would take the matter as seriously as if destinies of a nation were tied up in that



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vote of hers. While, of course, she would not vote as intelligently as her husband, yet you could always be sure she would not sell her vote or cast it in favor of bad men and bad laws. She has some very decided opinions respecting prohibition, child labor, the white slave traffic, and all great moral issues. Her convictions are all on the side of clean politics, good laws, and law enforcement. My wife is a fairly good citizen. I trust her implicitly with the care of the home, the training of our child, the cooking of our food, the milking of our cow, the raising of our chickens, the shopping, sewing, dish washing, church work, and everything else under the sun that I can persuade her to do. Why should I be afraid to trust her with the ballot?—B. A. Loving, in "The Soul Winner," Woodward, Okla.

TRUST IN MAN

We must trust in man to save him;
Make him think he is a man;
Then the good that is within him
Strives to do the best it can.
Call him "rascal," and we drive him
From all goodness by the ban,
And the bad that is within him
Strives to do the worst it can.

Distrust never yet has gathered
One poor soul to God and life,
But has often farther forced him
On to hatred and to strife.
As man thinketh, so can he be;
Make him think he can be great,
And the best that is within him
Strives to reach the wished-for state.

—Simon Carter.

SHOULD DANCING BE ALLOWED

"It is the good people of the cities who are in a large measure responsible for the questionable dance halls," says F. F. McClure, the Chicago Board of Public Welfare's superintendent of recreation. "Instead of co-operating and lending their influence in maintaining dance halls where the evil features are eliminated, they condemn dancing altogether, and when they shun dances, persons who have no interest except to make money open halls and exploit them in any manner that proves to be the most profitable."

"I believe that every town should begin now to offer a form of evening amusement for the young people and children which will bring them under a beneficial influence, instead of the bad influences prevailing in so many public dance halls. The school buildings especially those in the humbler districts present themselves as the logical places for such amusements and entertainments. Each night at present they stand empty and dark, while countless children, for want of a better place to go, roam the streets and wander into the places which are inviting yet productive of debasing influences. I should like to see them open at night, offering a pleasant, wholesome place for children and even their elders to gather and spend the evening. There should be amusements provided to suit the taste of all classes, and for the boys and girls between seventeen and twenty years old it would be hard to find a substitute for dancing. However, if the sentiment is against what is known as round dances, a substitute in the way of folk dances could be provided. That would be a matter for the board of education or the public to decide."

"Dr. Anna L. Strong, who is in charge of the Child Welfare Exhibit, says that in the cities where the schools are opened at night for amusement the results have been astonishingly gratifying."

"In New York city the amount of juvenile delinquency has abated wonderfully and an improvement of the tastes of the children along all lines of recreation is decidedly noticeable," Miss Strong said. "The young people seemed eager to come to the dances in the public schools instead of attending those in the dance halls, and many of the public dance halls lost in patronage so heavily that they were closed. Dancing was tried there as an experiment in a few schools at first, and was so successful that the school board opened all the schools for dancing."

F. D. Thorpe, Assistant Superintendent of Schools believes it is only a question of time before the schools will be an important factor in the amusement of young children as well as in their education."

"Wherever the plan has been adopted it has been successful far beyond expectations and the educational journals of the country advocate the plan strongly," Mr. Thorpe said. "Not an unimportant feature is the changing of the point of view of the child toward the school. He comes to look at it in a more friendly manner when it enters into the amusement side of life. I do not see why dancing should not be indulged in, unless there is too strong a sentiment in the city against it. Many persons are coming to believe that a dance, conducted in the wholesome atmosphere of the school, is at least better than those in the public halls."

SENT IN BY A CORRESPONDENT

IF

If I could live but one more day, I would spend the hours in prayer.

If I could have but one prayer answered, it would be "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done."

If I could comfort one more soul, it would be an invalid.

If I could have but one more flower, it would be a wild rose.

If I could give but one more dollar, it would be for charity.

If I could sing but one more song, it

HOW TO SECURE THE GUIDE PATTERNS

To secure any of the patterns published in The Guide, all that is necessary is to send 10 cents to the Pattern Department, Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg, and state the number of the pattern, giving bust measure for waist patterns, waist measure for skirt patterns, and the age when ordering patterns for Misses or Children. It will require from ten days to two weeks to secure these patterns as they are supplied direct from the makers. No new worker need be nervous or afraid to use The Guide patterns. They are accurate and perfectly and plainly marked. Full directions for making are given with every pattern you buy; also the picture of the finished garment to use as a guide.

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